I would like you to be aware of how the budget cuts to AIDS Service Organizations are going to affect my life. I am living with this virus and have been now for 10 years. I do receive Ryan White services from several agencies such as MANA, Latino Community Services and AIDS Project Hartford. I attend individual therapy sessions for mental health and substance abuse at MANA.

I receive transportation from Latino Community Service and medication adherence meetings, nurse care and case management through AIDS Project Hartford. As a whole, the cuts that are being proposed this year will have an adverse affect on my life. I will not be able to continue my treatment for substance abuse or mental health. This will cause me to possibly take a turn for the worse and return to unhealthy behaviors. My transportation needs are great and with these cuts I will not be able to access transportation which gets me to my appointments that keep me alive. I will not have a trained professional to ensure that I stay adherent to my medications. I personally feel that if the Wellness Centers that provide many essential services to clients on a daily basis are FORCED to close we will not have enough to survive.

I do benefit from these services and pray that they continue to be offered because they are critical in assisting us during these challenging times.

Please consider the needs of people living with HIV/ and or AIDS when making these decisions. We are after all humans and deserve to live. We are asking for basic human needs to be met.

Thank you, Jeanne Modine

Jeanne Nodine